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Letter to Charles Petit McIlvaine

A. H. Washburn

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to Fayella something which shall help him to become a probationer elsewhere, without having a cloud of suspicion resting upon him from his probation here. And I do this with all the more earnestness — yet I am sure respectfully — because I cannot endure to think that we, in any sense, bar the doors of the Church against Romanists, and also because I believe I am pleading in the cause of justice.

I am, Sir,

faithfully, your prosbyter,

A. A. Washburn

The Rt. Rev. Dr. McAlaine.

A. B. If you send anything for Fayella, please enclose it to me, and I will forward it.

A. A. W.

Rev. Mr. Washburn 87 Prospect Street,
(Fayella) Cleveland, 4 April, 1868.

68 04 04

My dear Bishop:

Mr. Fayella having made known to me the result of his application to you, I take the liberty of writing to you again without waiting for an answer to my former letter.

Will you pardon me if I represent his case to you in a light which may possibly have escaped your notice? Fayella goes to another diocese, soon to another church. There he will endeavor, as he has done here, by a consistent & faithful Christian life, to win confidence. If he makes application to the Bp. of Toronto, he will be asked whether he has applied to you. The question will then arise, why was he not admitted to the exercise of his

ministry, by the Bp. of Ohio. He will truly answer that it was not for any fault, or on account of any charge brought against him. But it may still further be urged, The Bp. of Ohio does not rest his refusal on any grounds different from those which were in his possession eighteen months before, and (the natural thought will be) some new development must have appeared, or the Bishop would have refused at the first, for these same reasons, to have entertained your application at all. If he had refused you then, you might have come to us, as you did to him, with clean papers. Now you come with nothing from him for your long probation.

Thus it seems to me, Sir, that he will go under suspicion, which he surely does not deserve. A year &

a half of the prime of his life is sacrificed; but this he can endure provided his good conduct can be acknowledged elsewhere.

I therefore write to request that you will give him some testimonial, which will be equivalent in effect to a transfer of him, as a probationer, from Ohio to Toronto. I say 'in effect' because I suppose there is no way in which the thing can formally be done.

If any Protestant clergyman should apply to the Roman Church, he would, undoubtedly, be received with open arms. But if any Romanist, priest or layman, should hereafter come to us, I should be afraid to recite to him the manner in which we have received this priest.

I beg you, my dear Sir, to send